

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AFR/CWR/SDE:LHILLSON:JAP

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COM/TR:FJAMES(DRAFT)

USDA/OT:JMAXWELL(DRAFT)

AFR/CWR:OCYLKE(DRAFT)

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AF/W:RSHERWOOD(DRAFT)

FFP/FDD:PSTRONG(DRAFT)

FFP/POD:PSHEEHAN(DRAFT)

AFR/DS:PLYMAN(DRAFT)

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TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AID/USDA TRANSPORT OFFICERS

ROME FOR FODAG, PARIS FOR HELMAN, BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN

1. MESSRS. ROBERT JAMES AND JOHN MAXWELL OF AID'S AND USDA'S TRANSPORTATION OFFICES PLAN TO VISIT WEST AFRICA, BEGINNING O/A MARCH 5 FOR A MAXIMUM OF THREE WEEKS. TRIP'S PURPOSE IS TO SURVEY THE SITUATION IN THE PORTS SERVING THE SAHEL RELIEF EFFORT, WITH A VIEW TOWARD INCREASING PORT CAPACITY/EFFICIENCY. SUBJECT TO EMBASSY/REDSO CONCURRENCE, THEY WISH TO CALL A CONFERENCE IN ABIDJAN O/A MARCH 11-12 TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF INLAND TRANSPORT, OVERALL STATUS OF FOOD SHIPMENT PROGRAM, BULK CARGO HANDLING AND SHIPPING SCHEDULES. CONFERENCE SHOULD BE ATTENDED BY ALL INTERESTED EMBASSY/ADO/REDSO OFFICERS INVOLVED IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. FOOD FOR PEACE OFFICERS PROUTY (NIAMEY) AND WOODS (DAKAR) ESPECIALLY REQUESTED TO ATTEND. EXPECT CONFERENCE WILL NOT REQUIRE SAME ATTENDEES AS AID/W SEMINAR NOW SCHEDULED MARCH 14-15.

2. JAMES/MAXWELL TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

DAKAR - ETA MARCH 5, 7:20 AM VIA PAN AM 186. PLEASE RESERVE TWO ROOMS FIRST CLASS HOTEL THREE NIGHTS. WILL EXTEND STAY IN DAKAR IF NECESSARY.

ABIDJAN - TENTATIVE ARRIVAL MARCH 8. RESERVE TWO ROOMS HOTEL IVOIRE. PLAN TO STAY MINIMUM FIVE DAYS. WILL CABLE MORE DEFINITE PLANS FROM DAKAR.

3. JAMES/MAXWELL PLAN VISIT TEMA AND OTHER PORTS AS NECESSARY FOLLOWING VISITS DAKAR/ABIDJAN. WILL DISCUSS AT ABIDJAN CONFERENCE. AFTER COMPLETION VISIT AFRICA, JAMES/MAXWELL WISH VISIT ROME FOR MEETING WITH OSRO ON SCHEDULING DONOR SHIPMENTS. WILL INFORM AS SCHEDULE DEVELOPS.

4. DURING VISITS, JAMES/MAXWELL WISH TALK WITH EMBASSY/
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ADO OFFICERS INVOLVED IN DROUGHT RELIEF EFFORT AS WELL AS HOST GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE SHIPPING, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND OTHER DONOR REPRESENTATIVES INVOLVED IN SHIPPING AND INLAND TRANSPORT. WILL DISCUSS UPON ARRIVAL.

5. DAKAR, ABIDJAN - PLEASE CONFIRM THAT DATES VISIT AND MEETING CONVENIENT FOR YOU. ALSO MAKE REQUESTED HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

6. ALL OTHER POSTS: PLEASE INDICATE BY CABLE TO ABIDJAN
(INFO DAKAR AND AID/W) ATTENDEES AT PROPOSED ABIDJAN
MEETING. WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN VIEW OF OTHER DEMANDS ON
EMBASSY OFFICER'S TIME IT MAY NOT BE FEASIBLE FOR ALL
EMBASSIES TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES. EMBASSIES/ADOS EACH
EXPECTED TO FUND OWN TRAVEL. CASEY

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